

SUMMER SCHOOL OF TRUTH

Thursday, August 16, 2018

Loving the Lord from Our Whole Heart

Scripture reading: Mark 12:30; Rom. 5:5; 1 Cor. 2:9; John 14:21, 23; 1 Tim. 1:14; S.S. 1:2-4a

Hymns: 547, 543

- I. “You shall love the Lord your God from your whole heart and from your whole soul and from your whole mind and from your whole strength” – Mark 12:30:**
 - A. The function of the heart is to love the Lord; it is the loving organ of our being – Gen. 2:18.
 - B. All spiritual experiences start with love in the heart; if we do not love the Lord, it is impossible to receive any kind of spiritual experience.
 - C. From the day we believed in the Lord Jesus, the love of God has been poured out in our hearts; hence, the heart of every Christian is a heart of love – Rom. 5:5; Ezek. 36:26.
 - D. Whether there would be a day of glory in the church’s victory or grievous days of the church’s decline depends altogether on what kind of lovers we are – 2 Tim. 3:2; Rev. 2:4, 7.
- II. Life is a person, Christ Himself, and there is no other way to apply and enjoy this person by love – John 14:6, 21, 23; 1 Tim. 1:14:**
 - A. Many Christians have been distracted by trying to do something for the Lord; this is because Satan in his subtlety would like to distract us from the very center of our being; we need to forget about outward correction, outward improvement, and outward activity and always pay our full attention to the inner part of our being where Jesus is – Rev. 2:1-4:
 1. From within our spirit we have to tell the Lord a thousand times a day, “Lord Jesus, I love You”; this is spiritual breathing by calling on His name – Hymns #172, #208.
 2. When we say, “Lord Jesus, I love You,” we have a sweet sense within us and we afford Him more space in our being – John 14:23; Eph. 3:17.
 - B. Today in this generation the Lord Jesus does not need many young people to work for Him; He needs many young ones to be “crazy lovers of Jesus.”
 1. All the young brothers and sisters should pray, “Lord Jesus, cause me to love You; show me Your loveliness, your beauty, Your fairness, and Your sweetness”; to all our senses nothing

should be so sweet, so precious, so attractive, and so amazing as Jesus.

2. If all the young people would be wrecked by the loveliness of Christ, this would affect the entire nation.

III. The Song of Songs is a marvelous and vivid portrait, in poetic form, of the bridal love between Christ and His lovers as His bride – S.S. 1:1:

- A. Song of Songs stresses not the Body of Christ corporately but the believer in Christ individually, unveiling the progressive experience of an individual believer's loving fellowship with Christ – vv. 2-4, 7-8; 2:4; 6:4.
- B. According to Song of Songs, our relationship with the Lord should be very romantic – 1:2-4, 2:5-6; 4:9-10; 7:10-12; 8:1-3:
 1. If there is no romance between us and the Lord Jesus, then we are religious Christians, not romantic Christians.
 2. Prayreading Song of Songs will cause us to become romantic with the Lord.
- C. According to Song of Songs, we need to have a personal and affectionate relationship with Christ – 1:2-4; cf. John 13:23; Psa. 2:12:
 1. God works in a personal and affectionate way with each one of us – Matt. 4:18-20; Mark 16:7; John 21:15-22.
 2. After you have received Christ as your life, you must have a personal seeking after Christ; no one can represent you in this matter.

IV. “Give yourself to love the Lord. No other way is so prevailing, and no other way is so safe, so rich, and so full of enjoyment. Just love Him. Do not care for anything else. We must continually tell the Lord, “Lord, keep me in Your love! Attract me with Yourself! Keep me all the time in Your loving presence! If we pray in this way, we will see what love we will have toward the Lord and what kind of life we will live. We will simply live by the Lord Himself. As long as we love Him from the deepest part of our being, everything will be all right: - Life and Building as Portrayed in the Song of Songs, p. 24.